



**HOUSE ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS
JOEL HEFLEY, COLORADO – CHAIRMAN**

PRESS RELEASE

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Chairman Hefley Opening Statement for Joint Hearing on Army and Marine Corps Reset Strategies for Ground Equipment and Rotorcraft

Washington, DC --- Today the Readiness and Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittees meet jointly to receive testimony on the Army and Marine Corps' strategies for resetting the ground equipment and rotorcraft that has been utilized in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. The Readiness Subcommittee closely follows the combat capability of our nation's armed forces, and my colleagues and I are concerned with the recent decline in readiness trends. The deterioration of Army and Marine Corps readiness is, in many ways, directly related to the strain on equipment resulting from OIF and OEF. Therefore, resetting the force is an essential element in maintaining our ability to conduct this war, as well as preparing for any future threats.

We have a panel of distinguished briefers with us today who will address the following two points:

1. First, we'll hear about the scope of equipment challenges resulting from the intense operational tempo and harsh conditions of OIF and OEF.
2. Second, the services will explain their strategies for resetting equipment, including the projected costs for reset, the challenges the services might face in implementing these strategies, and the ways in which reset affects other areas.

I look forward to the witnesses' testimony and the discussion that will follow. I'm sure both of our subcommittees will learn a great deal about the reset challenge that is before us.

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